

## COUNCIL WORK SESSION – June 10, 2014

The Mayor Meyer, presiding, called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. with all members present except Councilmen Hedquist and Sandoval.

Mayor Meyer excused Fleur Tremel, Assistant to the City Manager, and informed Council that Mrs. Tremel's discussion on criteria for community promotions will occur at a later date.

Councilman Sandoval joined the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

Mayor Meyer asked City Manager Patterson to tee up the discussion on Casper's Slow Ride. City Manager Patterson informed Council that in the wake of the fatal cyclist accident earlier this month, focusing on bicycle awareness and safety is essential in our community. Mr. Patterson then invited Josh Bake, Urban Renewal Manager, to present additional information to Council. Mr. Bake informed Council of the establishment of Casper's Slow Ride. Casper's Slow Ride is a bi-monthly evening bicycle ride in the heart of Casper meant to promote bicycle safety and awareness while also highlighting our historic downtown and the Old Yellowstone District. Slow Ride is intended to include citizens of all ages and abilities.

Andrew Nelson, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Supervisor, then introduced the final long range transportation plan. The MPO, through the City, contracted consulting firm Fehr and Peers to complete this 2014 update.

Ann Bowers, Fehr and Peers Transportation Consultant, then presented the plan addressing all modes of transportation through 2040. This plan includes updates regarding streets, transit, air and rail services, bicycle transportation, and pedestrian facilities. Major recommendations for future projects were briefly discussed as were fiscally restrained projects and funded and unfunded projects.

Next, Liz Becher, Community Development Director for the City of Casper, briefed Council on the James Reeb Garden Reuse agenda item and informed them that that the Presbytery of Wyoming would like to deed lots 163-167 of block 37 in North Casper to the City. Ms. Becher then introduced Scott Sissman who is associated with this particular congregation.

Mr. Sissman explained that these lots contain community gardens and a playground. The Presbytery's expectation in deeding this property to the City is that the City will maintain the playground and gardens and assume liability for both. An additional expectation is that the City will partner with the Wyoming Food for Thought Project to provide space for community gardens.

At this point, Mr. Sissman introduced Jamie Purcell from the Wyoming Food for Thought Project to discuss the community gardens topic. Councilman Bertoglio asked Ms. Purcell if Food for Thought might be able to cover the liability for the community gardens area and then mentioned the idea of subdividing the deed so that the gardens went directly to Food for Thought

and the playground went to the City. When asked if this could be done, City Attorney Bill Luben said he would need to look into it before answering specifically. As such, Council determined that more discussion and negotiation is needed. This item will be discussed further at an upcoming Council meeting.

Mayor Meyer then asked Mr. Patterson to tee up the ARAJPB lease discussion which he did and turned time over to City Attorney Bill Luben. Mr. Luben explained that the draft of the sublease agreement has been sent to BP's offices and he has not heard back from them in terms of approval. He expects to hear from BP soon.

Mr. Patterson then introduced Renee Hahn, Executive Director of the Amoco Reuse Agreement Joint Powers Board. Ms. Hahn voiced excitement and positivity on behalf of the ARAJPB and BP in moving forward with this lease agreement.

Mr. Richie Bratton then shared the excitement of the developers to get this project approved and get moving on bringing this convention center to Casper. Mr. Bratton extolled the numerous economic and social impacts that this project will have on Casper.

The resolution to authorize this sublease agreement draft with Amoco Reuse Agreement Joint Powers Board will be placed on the agenda for next week's Regular Council Meeting.

At this point, Council went around the table. Councilmember Schlager commented on Councilmember Goodenough's upcoming article being published in the Casper Star Tribune and voiced her full support of City Manager Patterson. She then reminded Council that their attorney, Mr. Masterson, has advised them that anything discussed either in Council Meetings or Executive Sessions can be used in pending litigation. Therefore, Councilmember Schlager suggested that further discussion of Councilmember Goodenough's request for City Manager Patterson to resign not occur. Councilmember Sandoval reminded Council that the city manager works at the behest of City Council and, therefore, his performance should be open for discussion at any time. Councilman Bertoglio reported on the WAM meeting in Cheyenne and was impressed with the presentations regarding local government funding. Councilman Goodenough commented on his article and emphasized his reasoning for requesting the city manager's resignation. Councilman Hopkins reported on the Platte River Restoration meeting he attended and indicated that the project is on track. Councilman Hopkins then suggested that Council revisit the issue of Council Chambers usage. Council agreed to discuss again at next week's Regular Meeting and vote when all Councilmembers might be present. Councilman Cathey announced that CNFR begins this weekend and encouraged Council to support the events. Vice Mayor Powell then reiterated Councilmember Schlager's comments regarding Mr. Masterson's legal advice to Council. Mayor Meyer voiced his support of City Manager Patterson.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.